

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE DIVISION[645]

Adopted and Filed

Rule making related to specific criteria for continuing education

The Board of Athletic Training hereby amends Chapter 352, “Continuing Education for Athletic Trainers,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 272C.2.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 272C.2.

Purpose and Summary

This rule making expands the specific criteria for continuing education by allowing athletic trainers to receive continuing education credit for additional activities, including attending workshops, authoring research, making professional presentations, and completing academic coursework. This rule making also eliminates definitions for terms that do not appear in the chapter.

Public Comment and Changes to Rule Making

Notice of Intended Action for this rule making was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on November 3, 2021, as **ARC 6027C**. A public hearing was held on November 23, 2021, at 9 a.m. in the Fifth Floor Conference Room 526, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. No one attended the public hearing.

At the Board’s regular quarterly meeting in December 2021, members of the profession and the professional association were present and inquired about the rules and whether there was any interplay between Board of Certification (BOC) certification and these continuing education changes. The Board explained that these rules do not impact BOC certification, nor do they alter the continuing education requirements for those athletic trainers who wish to rely on active BOC certification to satisfy their continuing education requirements pursuant to rule 645—352.4(152D,272C). Rather, licensees are not required to maintain active BOC certification as a condition of their license. If a licensee is not BOC-certified, this rule making simply provides additional options for satisfying the biennial 50 hours of continuing education. This rule making was initiated in response to a request by a licensee for additional pathways to satisfy continuing education hours, and the amendments allow additional options for obtaining continuing education that are recognized by other professions, including massage therapists and physical therapists. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rule Making

This rule making was adopted by the Board on December 14, 2021.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

A waiver provision is not included in this rule making because all administrative rules of the professional licensure boards in the Professional Licensure Division are subject to the waiver provisions accorded under 645—Chapter 18.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rule making will become effective on April 27, 2022.

The following rule-making actions are adopted:

ITEM 1. Amend rule 645—352.1(272C) as follows:

645—352.1(272C) Definitions. For the purpose of these rules, the following definitions shall apply:

~~“Active license” means the license is current and has not expired.~~

~~“Approved program/activity” means a continuing education program/activity meeting the standards set forth in these rules.~~

“Audit” means the selection of licensees for verification of satisfactory completion of continuing education requirements during a specified time period.

“Board” means the board of athletic training created under Iowa Code chapter 147.

“BOC” means the Board of Certification or its successor organization.

“Continuing education” means planned, organized learning acts acquired during initial licensure designed to maintain, improve, or expand a licensee’s knowledge and skills in order for the licensee to develop new knowledge and skills relevant to the enhancement of practice, education, or theory development to improve the safety and welfare of the public.

“Hour of continuing education” means at least 50 minutes spent by a licensee in actual attendance at and completion of an approved continuing education activity.

~~“Inactive license” means a license that has expired because it was not renewed by the end of the grace period. The category of “inactive license” may include licenses formerly known as lapsed, inactive, delinquent, closed, or retired.~~

~~“Independent study” means a subject/program/activity that a person pursues autonomously that meets standards for approval criteria in the rules and includes a posttest.~~

“License” means license to practice.

“Licensee” means any person licensed to practice as an athletic trainer in the state of Iowa.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 352.3(2) as follows:

352.3(2) Specific criteria. Continuing education hours of credit shall be obtained by participating in through any of the following:

a. Completing a course provided by a BOC-approved provider of continuing education.

b. Attending workshops, conferences, or symposiums.

c. Authoring research, the results of which are published in a recognized professional publication.

A licensee shall receive five hours of credit per page.

d. Presenting professional programs that meet the criteria of this chapter. Two hours of credit will be awarded for each hour of presentation. A course schedule or brochure must be maintained for audit. Presenting at a professional program does not include teaching class at an institution of higher learning at which the applicant is regularly and primarily employed, nor does it include presentations to the lay

public. A licensee may be granted no more than ten hours of continuing education credit per biennium for presenting professional programs.

e. Completing academic courses that directly relate to the professional competency of the licensee. Official transcripts indicating successful completion of academic courses that apply to the field of athletic training must be maintained for audit. Continuing education credit equivalents are as follows:

1 academic semester hour = 15 continuing education hours

1 academic trimester hour = 12 continuing education hours

1 academic quarter hour = 10 continuing education hours

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